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Fifth SMMC to celebrate Corps birthday here

BY LANCE CPL. DORIAN GARDNER
Chevron staff

The fifth Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps is scheduled to review the depot's ceremonies celebrating the Corps' 230th birthday at Shepherd Memorial Drill Field Nov. 9.

Retired Sgt. Maj. Joseph W. Dailey will be honored at a cake cutting and period



Retired Sgt. Maj.
Joseph W. Dailey

uniform pageant where organizers expect more than 5,000 Marines, recruits, sailors and civilians to attend.

The ceremony will begin with the traditional reading of Maj. Gen. John A. Lejeune's birthday message written in 1921,

as well as birthday messages from the Commandant of the Marine Corps and commanding general of Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Brig. Gen. John M. Paxton Jr.

Following the messages, individual Marines and a sailor will march onto the field in uniforms from periods spanning Marine Corps history.

Dailey enlisted in the Marine Corps and underwent recruit training in 1941 aboard the depot. Soon after, Dailey was stationed at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton where he served with 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division in World War II island-hopping combat. Dailey served with the same division during fighting in the Korean War.

He was promoted to sergeant major in December 1955, and immediately reported to Houston where he was assigned duty as sergeant major of Inspector-Instructor Staff, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, serving in that capacity until July 1962.

After serving in various billets and detachments throughout the Marine Corps, Dailey was promoted to Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Aug. 1, 1969 and served as such until his retirement in Jan. 1973.

His personal decorations include the Navy Cross, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V", the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V", the Purple Heart and the Combat Action Ribbon.

SAN DIEGO HATS MEET



1st Sgt. Dathan Edwards, Receiving Company's first sergeant, presents a wreath in a rededication ceremony at the depot's Drill Instructor Monument Oct. 21 at the West Coast Drill Instructor Reunion. Lance Cpl. Dorian Gardner/Chevron

Past and present DI's gather aboard depot for first West Coast drill instructor reunion

BY LANCE CPL. DORIAN GARDNER
Chevron staff

More than 200 former San Diego drill instructors and guests visited the depot Oct. 20-22 for the first West Coast drill instructor reunion.

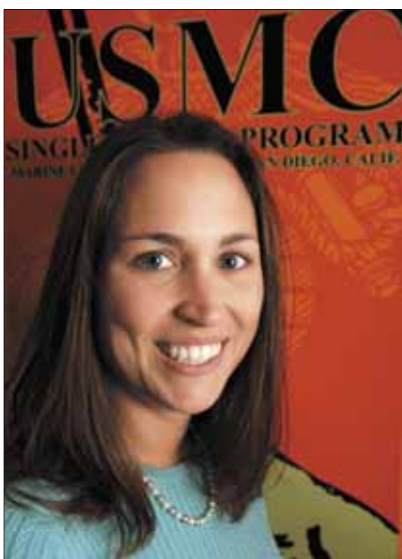
With annual depot events like the Turkey Trot and the Boot Camp Challenge, some Marines here were anxious to hold an event for some of the depot's more distinguished personnel: the drill instructors.

"We had a lot of people asking about doing a depot drill instructor event," said Sgt. Maj. Terry T. Hoskins, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion sergeant major and event coordinator. "The depot sergeant major asked me to organize an event that we could continue annually."

One-hundred-twelve retired drill instructors and more than 150 active duty drill instructors came together to share ideas about their craft, past and present. To one former drill instructor, almost everything was the same.

"They come from the same mold," said retired Sgt. Maj. Gary

SEE Reunion, pg. 5



Britney O'Connor has served as the SMP coordinator since August 2003. Jess Levens/Chevron

SMP hits strip on lead lady's last trip

BY CPL. JESS LEVENS
Editor

Ten Marines and a handful of civilians visited Las Vegas last weekend for an annual Single Marine Program getaway and SMP coordinator Britney O'Connor's last trip.

O'Connor set up accommodations at Treasure Island on the famous Las Vegas strip for the Marines, which was a considerable upgrade from last year's Bourbon Street hotel off the strip.

"(Treasure Island) was a nice to place to stay," said Lance Cpl. Robert Fleagle, Combat Camera. "It was better to come back to a nice room after being out all night."

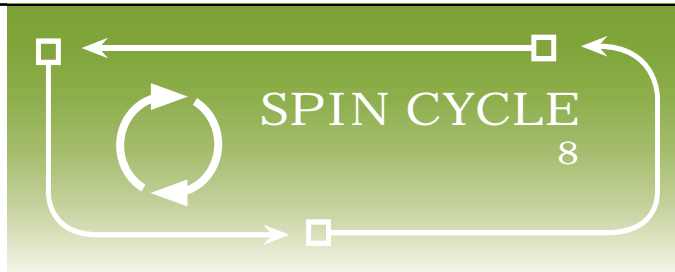
Besides the buffet and newly improved pirate show at TI, the marines spent most of their time at the Nine Fine Irishmen pub, where the group made friends with the house band in trips before. Irish folk music and some modern tunes mixed in was enough to start the devil dogs dancing.

The Marines also got VIP passes to Club Light at the Bellagio, a usually expensive and upscale spot.

This trip was O'Connor's last out of town gig with the Marines. She accepted another government position in the capitol area, and leaves the depot next month.

"The Vegas trip was great," said

SEE SMP, pg. 2



RECRUIT SPOTLIGHT

Twin grunts thrive in boot camp together

7

NOV. 1
SLEEVES DOWN



Postal service to release exclusive USMC stamps

BY PFC. KAITLYN M. SCARBORO
Chevron staff

In honor of the 230th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, the U.S. Postal Service is scheduled to release the U.S. Marine Corps Heritage Collection of four distinguished Corps postage stamps.

The Distinguished Marine Stamps honor four of the most reputable Marine Corps war heroes including Gunnery Sgt. John Basilone, Sgt. Maj. Daniel J. Daly, Lt. Gen. John A. Lejuene and Lt. Gen. Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller.

Purchase of the stamps will be available exclusively on Marine Corps installations Nov. 10 at \$7.40 for a book of 20 stamps. Other post offices will begin sale of the stamps on Nov. 11.

Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., and Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., are scheduled to host the unveiling ceremonies Nov. 10. Brig. Gen. Michael Lehnert, Commanding General Marine Corps Installations West, is scheduled to speak at the West Coast event.

Each of the stamps features a picture of the respective Marine Corps hero and the military insignia of the unit with which he is most identified.



Basilone, also known as "Manila John," fought on Guadalcanal with the 1st Marine Division in 1942 and received the Medal of Honor for his heroism.

Daly is one of only two Marines in history to receive the Medal of Honor twice for separate acts of heroism.

Lt. Gen. Lejuene was the first Marine to command an Army Division and later became the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Lt. Gen. Puller was a battalion and regimental commander with 1st Marine Division during World War II and the Korean War, and he earned five Navy Crosses.

The commemorative stamps will be printed only once and will be available for one year after being issued, according to USPS officials.

The Marine Corps specially produced two postmarks of the 1st Marine Division Fleet Marine Force unit insignia and the Camp Pendleton base insignia for the stamps.

The postmarks are specific to Camp Pendleton and will only be available there and Washington, D.C.

"The special postmarks will be available on base for 30 days after the event and never again," said Mike Cannone, a USPS public affairs representative.

Also scheduled for release on Nov. 10 is a U.S. Marine Corps silver dollar with a memorial of the raising of the flag on Iwo Jima on one side and the Corp's emblem on the other side.

"We are honored to be the first military service to receive a commemorative coin issued by the United States Mint. And we are particularly pleased that proceeds from this coin will help build the Marine Corps National Museum in Quantico (Va.)," said Marine Corps Assistant Commandant, Gen. William L. Nyland.

BRIEFS

Enlisted ball plans underway

The Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina on Harbor Island Drive will host this year's depot celebrations of the Marine Corps birthday. An enlisted ball coordinated by Sgt. Maj. Daniel Anderson will be held Nov. 10. A staff noncommissioned officer ball coordinated by Sgt. Maj. Terry Hoskins will be held Nov. 12. For more information, please contact your unit representative or call Hoskins at (619) 524-4317 or Anderson at (619) 524-1984.

EOA's needed

The Corps is looking for equal opportunity advisors. It's a full-time, three-year billet, and staff noncommissioned officers may apply. Assignment requests must be endorsed by the commanding officer of Headquarters and Service Battalion. Those who seek endorsement from the commanding general must get their requests to the Headquarters and Service Bn. commander by Dec. 19. Please refer to Marine Administrative Message 482/05 for more information.

SMP schedule

Be a part of the Single Marine Program's November schedule. Here's a glimpse:

Nov. 2, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. SMP Marines will assist the Substance Abuse Counseling Office in drug prevention at local schools.

Nov. 3, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Depot Marines will visit the veterans hospital in La Jolla, Calif.

Nov. 3, 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Join SMP coordinator Britney O'Connor at her going-away party during happy hour at Casa Guadalajara in Old Town San Diego.

Nov. 19 Six West Coast Marine Corps bases will compete in an all-out paint war in the Paintball Persecution tournament. For more information, contact Lance Cpl. Kevin M. Dorris at (619) 524-8294.

Nov. 23 Marines will view a live taping of the Tonight Show with Jay Leno. Show time is 1 p.m. and the uniform of the day will be Dress Blues. Transportation and dinner will be provided.

Nov. 24 Join SMP at Seu's Restaurant for a free Thanksgiving dinner. There are 25 seats available.

SMP, from pg. 1

O'Connor. "I had to go out with a bang."

O'Connor, who worked with the Marines here for more than two years, gave the program a facelift when she took over leadership.

"When I took over the program, I was told it should be like a fraternity, not a chess club," recalled O'Connor. "Being fresh from college, I felt like I could make that happen. I wanted to make SMP a fun, safe program that the marines would really enjoy. I thought the marines would appreciate it."

The Marines of the program said they feel she's done a terrific job.

"Britney is the Single Marine Program," said SMP president Sgt. David L. Walter. "She works so hard to make sure we have a great time."

O'Connor decided to be the program's leader, but be a friend to the Marines instead of the boss.

"I have made some great friends here," said O'Connor, a Chateaugay, N.Y., native. "Marines who've left still e-mail me and keep in contact."

Walter agreed: "She's in charge, but she's one of us. We treat her like a fellow Marine, and I think the close relationships she's formed with us is part of the reason she was able to make the program so successful."

Marine Corps Community Services has not yet found a replacement for 25-year-old O'Connor, but according to the Marines, she is leaving some big shoes to fill.

"I'm sure that whoever replaces Britney won't be the same," said Walter. "But regardless of who fills her spot, I'm sure that because of Britney, SMP will have the inertia to press on, and soon the new coordinator will be on the same page as us."

There is a going-away party for O'Connor at Casa Guadalajara in Old Town San Diego Tuesday evening.

For more information on upcoming SMP trips and events, call (619) 524-8240, or call Walter at (619) 524-6694.

HAVE A BALL gown

Fashion show, giveaway lend options for those wanting to elegantly celebrate Corps birthday



BY PFC. KAITLYN M. SCARBORO
Chevron staff

In preparation for the depot's Marine Corps Birthday Ball, the Marine Corps Family Team Building office hosted its annual Ball Gown Giveaway and Fashion Show Oct. 19 at the Bay View restaurant.

The show kicked off at 5:30 p.m. with opening remarks made by headquarters and service battalion's commanding officer's wife, Mrs. Sheila Redfern.

Civilian depot employees and female Marines waltzed the catwalk in a display of 520 gently used ball gowns and a few rental gowns from local businesses.

"It was different than last year; there were less dresses, but they were better dresses," said Sgt. Jazmin McNishernandez, Recruit Training Regiment, supply chief.

McNishernandez has modeled for the gown giveaway two years in a row. She was surprised by the luxuries offered to the models by event sponsor JC Penney Salon.

"They did our makeup and hair for free. They gave us coupons to get our hair done for the day of the ball. I was surprised. They didn't do that last year," she said.

The dress styles ranged from cocktail gowns to ball gowns and business suits.

"Because some people don't want hand me down dresses," said Natalie

Ladies wanting to dress up for the upcoming Marine Corps birthday ball season can find gently used or rental gowns through the depot's Marine Corps Family Team Building office. Illustration by Staff Sgt. Scott Dunn/Chevron

Francisco, Marine Corps Family Team Building coordinator for the depot and the Western Recruiting Region. "The bigger stores - Caché and JC Penney - loaned us dresses to use at the fashion show and then gave us discount coupons to go back and buy the dress off the rack."

The less fashionable gowns left from the show will be donated to goodwill. The more stylish dresses will be kept until the final ball on the West Coast, the depot's staff noncommissioned officer's ball Nov. 12.

According to Francisco, any gowns left behind will be sorted and either donated, disposed of or kept until next year's giveaway.

Ball gown donations are still being accepted. Contact Francisco at (619) 524-0916 for more information.

This Halloween, welcome back heebie-jeebies



BY PVT. CHARLIE CHAVEZ
Chevron staff

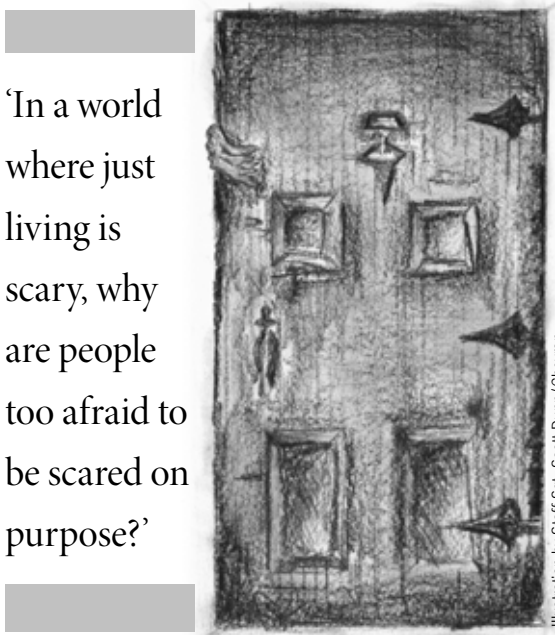


Illustration by Staff Sgt. Scott Dunn/Chevron

'In a world where just living is scary, why are people too afraid to be scared on purpose?'

Some of my fondest childhood memories are of believing in ghosts, witches and superstitions.

As I grew, that viewpoint faded - not the kind of rude awakening where you find your mother sitting next to your present under the Christmas tree eating and drinking the cookies and milk you supposedly left for Santa Claus, but the slow feeling of security in the dark and the disappearance of monsters under your bed.

Now, I can't say that I'm not scared of anything, because a snake, no matter how big or small, still sends me screaming like a girl. However, trespassing into a deserted home on a stormy, cold night didn't scare me.

At the sprightly age of 7, it even seemed like a good idea. To my friends, going into the home seemed to be a bad omen and should have been avoided, no matter what.

Superstitions about abandoned buildings being haunted had preceded them. I had no time to be scared of a little dust and floors that could snap beneath me. I walked in and confronted the fear of the unknown and was also the first person to hurt myself and scream for help, so maybe I'm not the one to give advice on the subject.

Superstitions, although fun and sometimes idiotic, are not all bad; some have their merit. Telling someone not to break a mirror for fear of bad luck is a great way to keep people from breaking your things, and shooting someone with a silver bullet just seems like an expensive prison sentence. No matter what the value or application to your own personal life, we still encountered them as a child. Folk songs long ago kept people's history and lore in their mystery and were passed on by generations, which led to exaggerations and superstitions.

Superstitions collectively have prevailed through one of the most infamous days of the year - the teeth-rotting time of the year where hyperactivity is

not frowned upon: Halloween.

Taking in the sights and sounds of Halloween is definitely an experience all of its own - not to mention the costumes that some people wear. Having grown up with books of scary stories and acts of idiocy, I have denounced many of the things I used to believe in. But why?

Why do we lose our sense of superstition as we grow?

PTSD is serious, but help is waiting and ready

BY SYLVIA WILLIS DRYDEN-DORSEY
Contributing writer

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is a stress-induced reaction to trauma. In the wake of Afghanistan and Iraq, Post Traumatic Stress has become a household term. Increasingly, service members are being seen at health care facilities trying to understand the symptoms of PTSD, which include behavioral changes, sleep disturbance, mood swings, agitation, poor concentration, distrust, and anger.

Prior to and before returning from deployment, both pre- and post deployment briefs are given to all Marines. However, even the best deployment briefs cannot totally prepare Marines for the constant sound of artillery fire, the grueling 24/7 operation tempo, or the loss of a brother-in-arms.

If someone had told me 20 years ago when I was a lance corporal that a female Marine would experience combat stress as a result of being in a war zone, my response would have been one of disbelief. Twenty years later, after retiring as a chief warrant officer, my response is very different. I have had the honor of serving in Iraq side by side with male and female Marines - getting by on an hour of sleep or less a day, leading Marines to accomplish the mission, and assisting them to get the help needed to deal with the overwhelming emotions associated with combat stress.

Combat stress is a natural reaction to an intense, prolonged stressful situation. It can affect a Marine, regardless of gender, physical stature, or mental tenacity.

Even with the training I have as a helping professional, I had to wrestle with seeking help, because of the stigma associated with being perceived as a weak Marine.

As a result, like many Marines who returned from combat, I suffered increase irritability, unexplained feelings of hostility, loss of appetite, and sleepless nights. These classic symptoms of combat stress are usually combined with increased friction in the home, use of tobacco products and alcohol consumption. The symptoms of combat stress will usually continue until a loved one or medical provider strongly recommends that the Marine seek help.

There is no cookie-cutter approach to

recovery from combat stress.

Some Marines may want to enter a self-help group of veterans who can identify with the trauma they have endured; others may want to go into individual or one-on-one counseling sessions; others may want to address anger, and relationship problems; and others may want to address substance abuse issues.

These services can be obtained through the Medical Mental Health Unit, Family Advocacy Program Office, the Substance Abuse Counseling Center, and Navy One.

Regardless of the types of services you decide are right for you, direct action is a key element to overcoming the extreme stresses experienced under combat conditions.

Direct action focuses on recognizing, accepting, and coping with stress and trauma-related problems. Direct action will assist the service member to regain normalcy in his life. It is key in development of the attitude and habit of coping with stress.

Recovering from PTSD is an ongoing, daily process. It is important that the veteran is patient with himself or herself - keeping in touch with people and ac-

Helpful contacts:

- Medical Mental Health Unit
*(619) 524-1565
- Family Advocacy Program Office
(619) 524-0465
- Substance Abuse Counseling Center
(619) 524-1912
- One Source Referral (civilian)
(800) 433-6868

**Requires depot sick call appointment*

tivities you enjoy, and avoiding isolation.

Remind yourself that it is natural to have memories of a traumatic event, and getting the right help will make you a better spouse, friend, and Marine.

Deployed Marines spend months of anticipation looking forward to reuniting with their loved ones. Be aware of the signs of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and ensure your reunion is a happy one.

WillisDryden-Dorsey is a substance abuse counselor at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

CHEVRON
ESTABLISHED 1943

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Drill instructors bow in prayer during an invocation.



Retired Sgt. Maj. John Clampitt, a 1960s-era drill instructor, listens to narration by present-day DI Sgt. Herb Johnson at a memorial to departed drill instructors.



Retired Sgt. Maj. Gary Truscott, right, and Capt. William Doctor render honors during a Colors presentation. Truscott served as a drill instructor with 1st Recruit Training Battalion from 1979 to 1981. He was also that battalion's sergeant major from 1993 to 1995.



A bronze drill instructor, one of two figures that make up the depot's Drill Instructor Monument, stands during a ceremony at Shepherd Field Oct. 21. Lance Cpl. Dorian Gardner/Chevron photos



In a speech to drill instructors, retired Sgt. Maj. Bill Paxton, depot dynamo, talks about the roles DI's have played in building the Corps and in shaping the nation.

Reunion, from pg. 1

Truscott, former drill instructor. "They still wear their covers too low and lean back too far when they march."

Some of the drill instructors found that things had changed since they joined the drill field.

"It was pretty cool to know how it actually was back when they were drill instructors," said Staff Sgt. Darrick M. Lowery, a 2nd Bn. senior drill instructor. "Some of them were telling me how things were different back then. One (retired) drill instructor noticed that a drill instructor took off his cover while his recruits were in a classroom. They didn't do that back then. He said they didn't want the recruits to think they were on the same level."

Shortly after, drill instructors observed as Company C marched across Shepherd Field. A few of the old-school drill instructors shot the breeze with the new-school hats, while others just absorbed the familiar aura of the trenches.

"It's like a home," said retired Sgt. Maj. John Clampitt, who is one of the original "Dirty Dozen," which formatted one of the original close-combat training programs for recruits in the 1960s. Clampitt worked with 2nd Bn. from 1961 to 1962 and 3rd Bn. from 1966 to 1969.

"They are doing a great job," said Clampitt. "It is evident by the troops in Iraq that these drill instructors are training good Marines."

After chow, drill instructors moved to the Drill Instructor Monument for a memorial service to honor fallen drill instructors and corpsmen.

A formation was held for seven

retired drill instructors who passed in the last two years. Marines dedicated a wreath to their comrades and read words written by Marines and recruits.

"In honor of those drill instructors and corpsmen who are unnamed but not unknown nor forgotten by us, we present this wreath," read Sgt. Herb Johnson, Special Training Company drill instructor. "It is placed as a symbol to their sacrifice. The lives they willingly laid down allowed many others to rise up in freedom."

The ceremony ended with a rifle volley before social drill instructor call at the Bay View restaurant where the men recognized outstanding drill instructors and paid tribute to the late Sgt. Maj. Leland D. "Crow" Crawford. Crow, as his friends called him, was a drill instructor and the ninth Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. His widow Faye Crawford and several former Marines, including familiar depot personality retired Sgt. Maj. Bill Paxton, spoke on his behalf. The Marines broke bread together afterward.

"The bottom line is that there was a shared vision for us, (and we) wanted to show our appreciation for all drill instructors – past, present and future – and to allow an opportunity to renew old friendships and make new friends," said Sgt. Maj. Frank E. Pulley, depot and Western Recruiting Region sergeant major. "Our commanding general encouraged and approved the event, and the turnout was great. We were humbled and honored to have so many drill instructors and families back to the depot."



COMPANY HONOR MAN
Pfc. T. R. Smith
Pendleton, Ore.
Recruited by
Sgt. T. M. Cuff



SERIES HONOR MAN
Pfc. G. B. Lentch
Boise, Idaho
Recruited by
Gunnery Sgt. J. D. Spade



PLATOON HONOR MAN
Pfc. J. L. Howton
Olympia, Wash.
Recruited by
Gunnery Sgt. R. W. Babkirk



PLATOON HONOR MAN
Pfc. J. P. Pakes
Janesville, Wis.
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. W. Gwaltney



PLATOON HONOR MAN
Pfc. J. Gonzales
Midland, Texas
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. C. E. Adkins



PLATOON HONOR MAN
Pfc. J. Sierra
El Paso, Texas
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. S. Walker



HIGH PFT (300)
Pvt. J. C. C. McKay
Glidden, Wis.
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. B. Geiger



HIGH SHOOTER (241)
Pfc. J. M. Barrett
Sherman, Texas
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. T. C. Segura

FOX COMPANY

These are America's newest Marines and their leaders at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. Company F graduates 489 men today:

SECOND RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION
Commanding Officer
Lt. Col. V. A. Ary
Chaplain
Lt. Cmdr. E. S. Pease
Sergeant Major
Sgt. Maj. T. T. Hoskins
Drill Master
Gunnery Sgt. P. A. Duncan

COMPANY F
Commanding Officer
Capt. A. Smith
First Sergeant
1st Sgt. J. Hidalgo
Corpsman
Petty Officer 3rd Class O. M. Santos

SERIES 2121
Series Commander
Capt. J. P. Voorhees
Series Gunnery Sergeant
Gunnery Sgt. J. L. Kappen

SERIES 2125
Series Commander
Capt. S. T. Jones
Series Gunnery Sergeant
Staff Sgt. D. R. Neel

PLATOON 2121
Senior Drill Instructor
Sgt. A. C. Bueno
Drill Instructors
Sgt. J. A. Espinoza
Sgt. W. W. Davis

Pvt. R. M. Abeyta
Pfc. B. A. Aguilar
Pfc. T. Aldape
*Pfc. S. Alonzo
Pfc. A. Alvarez
Pvt. S. Anderson
Pvt. B. C. Aviles
*Pfc. R. P. Barnes
Pfc. I. Barrera
Pvt. C. A. Baumeister
Pfc. P. J. Beaubien
Pfc. D. R. Bible
Pvt. K. W. Bodkins
Pfc. J. J. Bodnovits
Pvt. D. M. Bowman Jr.
*Pfc. W. R. Bradley
Pvt. J. D. Bradshaw
Pvt. J. D. Breaux
Pvt. R. B. Brown III
Pvt. K. G. Buckmaster
Pfc. R. P. Burton
Pfc. J. R. Castillo
Pfc. E. M. Cheney
Pvt. N. P. Christian
Pfc. D. R. Clay
Pvt. B. M. Cox
Pvt. D. W. Crise
Pvt. J. Cristerna
Pvt. A. C. Crockett
Pvt. D. M. Dake

Pvt. K. M. Delfin
Pvt. R. M. Dillon
Pvt. T. B. Dixon
Pvt. B. P. Dougherty
Pfc. D. J. Enloe
Pfc. D. G. Ferguson
Pvt. T. O. Fierova
Pvt. F. Finau
Pfc. M. A. Fraire III
Pfc. M. D. Friedman
Pfc. C. Gant
Pvt. K. D. Garber
Pvt. J. J. Garchow
Pvt. D. E. Garcia
Pvt. A. S. Gauthier
*Pfc. A. P. Gilbert
Pfc. E. I. Gonzalez
Pvt. C. L. Hadden
Pvt. C. D. Haines
Pvt. D. G. Hensler
Pvt. C. S. Herbert
Pvt. W. A. Holden
Pvt. A. D. Holloway II
Pvt. J. M. Holt
Pvt. A. J. Horton
Pvt. C. M. Huffman
Pvt. P. M. Iams
Pfc. D. L. Iglehart
Pvt. M. C. Ingalls
Pfc. J. Jaimes Jr.
Pvt. E. W. Jenn
Pvt. H. A. Jensen
Pvt. J. J. Johnson
Pfc. C. D. King
Pvt. S. Lee
Pfc. G. B. Lentch
Pfc. T. N. Lobb
Pvt. R. A. Magby
Pvt. M. S. Jones
Series Gunnery Sergeant
Staff Sgt. D. R. Neel

PLATOON 2122
Senior Drill Instructor
Sgt. R. W. Cardon
Drill Instructors
Sgt. J. E. Baker
Sgt. J. L. Mondloch
Pfc. O. R. Aragon
Pfc. C. J. Audleman
Pfc. D. S. Bahrenburg
Pvt. D. B. Baldrige
*Pfc. K. R. Bantz
Pvt. R. R. Barnes
Pfc. J. M. Barrett
Pvt. M. A. Bartosh
Pvt. S. Bektasevic
*Pfc. J. D. Bell
Pfc. F. A. Bellavia
Pfc. A. R. Bernal
Pfc. C. R. Bigelow
Pfc. R. A. Black
Pvt. J. P. Anderson
Pvt. D. J. Borden
Pvt. J. G. Boyer
Pvt. D. T. Brunner
Pvt. D. J. Buchheit

Pvt. J. D. Buxkemper
*Pfc. B. L. Carpenter
Pvt. C. Chavez Jr.
Pvt. V. R. Compton
Pvt. B. J. Craddock
Pvt. S. T. Crum
*Pfc. R. A. Cutler
Pvt. C. A. Davis
Pfc. C. Delossantos
Pvt. D. L. Demars
Pvt. J. J. Dinsmore
Pfc. P. W. Doerr
Pvt. W. G. Dolmer
Pfc. C. J. Duty
Pvt. E. M. Ellis
*Pfc. J. W. Entenman
Pvt. K. J. Erickson
Pvt. J. T. Flowers
Pvt. R. J. Fulgham
Pvt. A. E. Garcia
Pvt. J. M. Genin
Pvt. L. N. Glaze
Pvt. J. J. Green
Pvt. J. M. Green
Pvt. O. Gutierrez
Pvt. J. W. Harden
Pfc. J. M. Harris
Pfc. R. P. Hehir
Pfc. G. Hernandezrangel
Pfc. J. D. Hess
Pvt. M. D. Hoag
Pvt. T. C. Hotema
*Pfc. J. L. Howton
Pvt. N. R. Huisman
Pvt. D. A. Jaramillo
Pvt. M. C. Jasper
Pvt. B. T. Jeffers
Pvt. A. L. Johnson
Pvt. N. J. Juncer
Pfc. K. C. Kasher
Pvt. N. A. Knight
Pfc. E. W. Koester
Pvt. M. T. Konczal
Pvt. R. L. Lamb
Pfc. J. R. Lange
Pvt. S. A. Legard
Pvt. K. R. Lopez
Pfc. I. A. Markert
Pvt. W. W. Martinson
*Pfc. S. Alonzo
Pvt. C. J. Miller
Pvt. R. K. Miller
Pvt. R. R. Milliken
Pfc. J. M. Ordunez
Pvt. P. P. Perez
Pvt. A. A. Ramsey
Pvt. S. E. Rountree
Pvt. J. A. Smith
Pfc. W. D. Sullivan
Pvt. J. D. Vincent
Pvt. K. K. Wendt

PLATOON 2123
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. J. J. Fuentes
Drill Instructors
Sgt. J. A. Hawkins
Staff Sgt. W. R. Hill
Pvt. I. A. Alvaradoaguilar
Pvt. P. G. Anacta
Pvt. J. P. Anderson
*Pfc. J. Anrubio
Pvt. S. A. Aralza
Pfc. M. J. Asay
Pvt. A. Barcenas
Pvt. D. M. Baudillit
Pvt. A. J. Bayle
Pfc. P. T. Birley
Pfc. J. D. Bischoff
Pvt. A. J. Burgett
Pvt. B. J. Buys
Pvt. U. Campa
Pfc. A. J. Castanon
Pvt. L. A. Castillo Jr.
Pvt. J. M. Castillarevell
Pvt. C. D. Charpilliz
Pvt. D. Q. Chu
Pvt. K. E. Clark
Pfc. J. D. Cranfill
Pvt. B. A. Daniels
Pfc. E. J. Diaz
Pvt. A. D. Do
Pvt. A. P. Dolasco
*Pfc. J. C. Mickey
Pvt. J. A. Eilman
Pvt. A. D. Engelking
*Pfc. D. R. Eslinger
Pvt. M. A. Falcon Jr.
Pvt. D. J. Faull II
Pvt. D. J. Favre
Pfc. C. D. Franklin
Pvt. B. M. Gabriel
Pvt. E. S. Galicia
Pvt. A. M. Garrett
Pvt. B. R. Gilbert
Pvt. R. M. Grabau
Pvt. J. A. Greidanus
*Pfc. B. W. Grzyb
*Pfc. M. A. Guerrero
Pvt. T. L. Haynes
Pvt. J. P. Hinds
Pvt. M. Hodges
Pvt. J. M. Horishnyk

*Pfc. C. J. Huinker
Pvt. J. L. Immon
Pvt. K. A. Jacobs
Pfc. C. W. Jensen
Pvt. F. A. Jimenez
Pvt. J. G. Kasparek
Pfc. A. C. Kilcup
Pvt. D. E. Kimballpope
Pvt. R. M. Knox
Pfc. C. D. Krumrei
Pvt. J. J. Larson
Pvt. S. R. Lawson
Pvt. M. C. Leabo
Pvt. C. J. Little
Pvt. R. Lopez Jr.
Pfc. T. L. Manchester
Pfc. M. J. Martinez
Pvt. S. Martinez
Pfc. G. Maturino
Pvt. C. R. Mayen
Pvt. J. L. McClung
Pvt. R. H. Miller
Pvt. M. H. Montgomery
Pvt. Y. D. Moreno
Pvt. A. J. Morris
Pfc. M. L. Neal
Pfc. E. V. Ochoa
Pvt. J. W. Padron
*Pfc. J. P. Pakes
Pvt. S. A. Pallares
Pfc. B. V. Paul
Pvt. B. D. Pearson
Pfc. R. M. Peralta
Pvt. J. N. Peshu
Pvt. M. V. Prunk
Pfc. G. A. Reinhardt
Pvt. M. G. Rodgers
Pfc. V. R. Varela

PLATOON 2125
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. J. B. Noel
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. P. A. Valdez
Staff Sgt. P. D. Livingston
*Pfc. S. A. Aguilar
Pvt. T. R. Alcoser Jr.
Pfc. L. A. Alfaro
Pvt. D. Anderson
Pfc. D. A. Antunez
Pvt. J. R. Arraslio
Pvt. C. A. Arroyo
Pvt. D. M. Bell
Pfc. M. B. Beverly
Pfc. J. J. Buda
Pfc. F. Carrillo Jr.
Pfc. J. D. Caruso
Pvt. C. D. Castillo
*Pfc. J. Cerdia
Pvt. M. S. Chen
Pvt. T. J. Christensen
Pvt. M. G. Clark
Pvt. K. C. Coleyamaaguchi
Pfc. M. A. Crall
Pfc. P. J. Denison
Pfc. J. R. Dunn
Pvt. E. L. Ehlly
Pvt. S. B. Febre
Pvt. R. Garcia Jr.
*Pfc. B. R. Gash
Pfc. T. E. Gilham
Pvt. A. J. Ribic
Pvt. S. A. Robinson
Pvt. T. A. Rokov
Pvt. S. J. P. Smethurst
Pfc. G. Vasquez
Pvt. D. T. Zaccarias

PLATOON 2126
Senior Drill Instructor
Sgt. J. A. Rivas
Drill Instructors
Sgt. S. P. Engs
Staff Sgt. E. Khanthasa
Pfc. M. Abdouch
Pvt. C. M. Anderson
Pvt. D. M. Barbadillo
Pfc. J. A. Canales
Pvt. D. L. Clifton
Pvt. J. D. Dennis
Pvt. K. K. Dorethy
Pvt. G. W. Dosmann Jr.
Pvt. N. Z. Duarosan Jr.
Pfc. J. E. Ewing
Pvt. S. O. Faris
Pvt. R. F. Highet
Pvt. J. O. Leonard
Pvt. T. J. Randolph
Pvt. J. D. Lopez
Pvt. G. Lozolla
Pvt. A. Martell Jr.
Pvt. R. C. Oliva Jr.
Pvt. B. M. Paulick
*Pfc. M. J. Perez
Pvt. R. E. Ramos
Pvt. J. J. Randolph
Pfc. K. I. Reimond
*Pfc. C. D. Reinwand
Pfc. J. A. Rendero
Pvt. S. V. Rolo
Pvt. D. L. Romo
Pvt. D. Rosas
Pvt. A. R. Sanchez



Pvt. Nicholas L. Warner, Platoon 2126, Company F, struggles to complete one more pull-up during the first event of the final physical fitness test. All recruits must meet the minimum standards of this test before they can graduate boot camp. Warner did seven pull ups; the average recruit does 11. Lance Cpl. Dorian Gardner/Chevron

Pvt. M. Zamora
Pfc. M. A. Zapata
*Pfc. M. H. Ziemke

PLATOON 2127
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. D. M. Lowery
Drill Instructors
Sgt. R. D. Fraser
Staff Sgt. K. R. Warren
Pfc. D. A. Barrios
Pvt. J. M. Christianson
Pvt. W. K. Cushmanberry
Pvt. J. R. Jones
Pvt. R. C. Logan
Pvt. T. E. Taylor
Pvt. J. R. Tenorio
Pvt. R. Thomas Jr.
Pvt. E. C. Thomas
Pvt. K. A. Tittman
Pvt. N. A. Toon
*Pfc. A. R. Tritt
Pvt. D. L. Minker
Pvt. C. C. Vadnais
Pvt. M. A. Vasquez
Pvt. M. B. Vegas
Pfc. A. Velasquez
Pfc. D. J. Villacano
Pvt. K. D. Wagner
Pvt. D. A. Walker
Pvt. R. L. Walker
Pvt. B. W. Warloe
Pvt. J. D. Nickels
Pvt. K. S. Warren
Pvt. R. K. Weaver II
Pvt. T. L. Webb
Pvt. T. J. Weiss
Pvt. D. R. White Jr.
Pvt. J. L. White
Pvt. J. R. Williams
Pvt. L. A. Williams
Pvt. A. M. Wisenbaugh
Pvt. C. L. Wombles
Pvt. K. D. Wombles
Pvt. C. A. Wyatt
Pvt. N. A. Xavier
Pvt. J. S. Ristow

Pvt. D. J. Rodriguez
Pvt. I. Rojas
Pfc. A. A. Romerozamora
Pvt. M. A. Ruiz
Pfc. R. F. Salazar Jr.
Pfc. R. Salazar
*Pfc. D. J. Salmela
Pvt. E. Saucedapuentes
Pvt. K. J. Schneider
Pvt. N. M. Serrano
Pvt. B. D. Shackelford
Pvt. D. H. Shropshire
*Pfc. J. Sierra
Pfc. M. E. Smith
Pvt. R. Z. Smith
Pvt. T. H. Spotlich
Pvt. A. D. Sprauer
Pvt. J. J. Staggs
Pvt. P. M. Stehno
Pvt. N. R. Stevens
Pfc. J. E. Silvers
Pvt. J. V. Stoker
Pvt. C. C. Stroud
Pvt. R. A. Sturgill
Pvt. J. P. Takahashi
Pfc. A. C. Taylor
Pvt. K. N. Taylor
Pvt. T. S. Thornbro
Pvt. D. W. Topolski
Pvt. M. J. Trejo
Pvt. T. J. Valle
Pvt. B. A. Venhuizen
Pfc. S. N. Vergara
Pfc. N. C. Wardle
Pvt. C. J. Watson
Pvt. D. W. Watson
Pvt. C. W. Webb
Pfc. J. S. Weems
Pvt. J. T. Williams
*Pfc. M. W. Wilson
Pvt. J. M. Wittmaack
Pfc. Z. Zavadny
*Pfc. J. Zequilda
Pvt. R. F. Zuidema
Pvt. J. C. Zwetzig

*Meritorious promotion

Sgt. Maj. Robert D. Thielen

PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER



Sgt. Maj. Robert D. Thielen currently serves as sergeant major of Brigade Service Support Group 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Born and raised in Richmond, Minn., he was the third of ten children. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in June 1979, and completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego in August that year.

After completing Infantry Training School, he was assigned as a machine gunner in Company L, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines. He completed the sniper and advanced sniper course and also was a member of the battalion's 100-mile hike from the Salton Sea to Camp Pendleton.

He was meritoriously promoted to corporal and sergeant and served as machine gun section leader, mortar section leader, and platoon sergeant before being transferred in March 1986 to

Weapons and Field Training Battalion, Edson Range, Pendleton.

He held the billets of range coach and later block noncommissioned officer on Bravo Range. He participated in the Jim Hill Shooting Match and placed second at individual competition and "high shooter" on his first-place team.

In March 1988, he reported to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where he served as a platoon sergeant in Rifle Security Company Windward. He was promoted to staff sergeant in April 1988.

In April 1989, reported to Drill Instructor School in San Diego.

He was assigned to Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, where in completing ten training cycles, served as a drill instructor, senior drill instructor and chief drill instructor. In one training cycle, he graduated an honor platoon while leading as a senior drill instructor. He also wrote a standard desktop reference for 2nd Battalion's senior drill instructors posting and relieving.

On April 1, 1992, he reported to the 1st Marine Division where he was assigned to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines. He served as a platoon sergeant during a deployment with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, and participated in the combat rubber reconnaissance craft landing to secure the Port of Mogadishu during Operation Restore Hope.

He served four months in Mogadishu, Somalia.

After that deployment, he served as logistics chief, Headquarters and Service Company, 2/9, for six months.

He was re-assigned as weapons platoon commander, Company F,

where he was promoted to gunnery sergeant in December 1994. While on deployment, he concurrently served as weapons platoon commander, chief navigator, and company gunnery sergeant.

In September 1995, he was transferred to Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, Calif., where he served as an instructor/advisor in the Career Course. He was then re-assigned as the staff non-commissioned officer-in-charge of the Sergeant's Course, and he participated with a mobile training team to Riga, Latvia, to instruct Latvian military on enlisted development.

In April 1998, he again reported to the 1st Marine Division and was assigned as company gunnery sergeant with Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines. He was promoted to first sergeant in May 1999, and remained in Company A until September 2001 when re-assigned as the Headquarters Company first sergeant at 5th Marine Regiment.

He served there until August 2002. He received orders to 1st

Combat Engineer Battalion, and was assigned to Company A, for five months. He was re-assigned to Company D, which was activated on January 29, 2003 for deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom. While deployed, he supported the 7th Marine Regiment from Kuwait to Baghdad, and Task Force Tripoli from Baghdad to Tikrit, Iraq.

On July 1, 2003, he was promoted to sergeant major and assigned to 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group. On February 28, he deployed with Combat Service Support Battalion 1 to Camp Fallujah, Iraq, for Operation Iraqi Freedom II-I, returning in August of 2004.

Sgt. Maj. Thielen's personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, three Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medals, three Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and two Combat Action Ribbons.

In 1985, he married the former Kathryn P. Gipslis. He has a son, Cole, and daughter, Brooke, who resides in Escondido, Calif.

RECRUIT SPOTLIGHT

Intuition propels twins through training

BY PVT. CHARLIE CHAVEZ
Chevron staff

"Recruit Wombles times two!" yelled the drill instructor as two heads popped up simultaneously. Acknowledging the call, they both rose to their feet and ran to the front of the barracks.

Cody L. and Kyle D. Wombles grew up in the small town of Pleasant Hill, Ill. Living in a town with less than 1,000 people, the two Company F recruits welcome the idea of being identical twins in a new, ethnically diverse environment with new experiences.

Said Cody: "The only way our drill instructors can tell us apart is by the ..."

"... mole on my face," said Kyle, finishing his twin's thought.

They take turns finishing each other's sentences, and they do it frequently.

"Other recruits in the platoon always tells us how lucky we are and how they wish that their brothers could be here training with them," said Kyle.

Taking on the challenge of joining the military was an ambition the twins shared as young boys.

"We decided on the Marines because it looked like it was the hardest," said Kyle. Cody shook his head in agreement. "Our mother didn't want us to go, but we told her when we turned 18 we were going to join."

"They probably put it mildly," said their mom Cheryl Wombles about their choice.

After the several discussions and heated words that the family shared, she ultimately found herself supporting their decision to join.

"Kyle didn't voice his opinion to want to leave Illinois as much as Cody, but they both want to see different things," said Cheryl.

A year of persuasion helped the twins, who were born on Dec. 17, 1986, to get their mother to sign the parental consent form to allow them to join at 17.

"She signed our papers and we asked our recruiter to get us to go as soon as possible," said Cody.

"But he didn't have any open spots until after the summer," said Kyle.

Putting themselves on the waiting list for open spots, the two did encounter an opening, but for only one of them.

"At first I was ready to take it," said Cody. "Then I realized it wasn't enough time to say goodbye to everyone, so I passed it up."

In early August, the twins finally made it into boot camp as infantrymen.

Having each other to rely on during training has

helped them to excel and make it through. In a letter that Cheryl received from Kyle, she believed that he was becoming homesick and needed reassurance

"I told him that he needed to buck up and take it like a man," said Cheryl. "I also told his brother to look out for him, which makes me look hard, but I knew they would be fine."

The twins followed their mother's guidance and did well throughout training.

"They are basically joined at the hip," said Sgt. Jefferson A. Rivas, Platoon 2126, Co. F drill instructor. "Whenever one reports for something, instead of picking them apart they both come up."

Showing their drill instructors that they have no problems getting through training, both recruits averaged about the same score on almost every competitive event.

"Every time we went through the obstacle course, the drill instructors would make us race one another," said Kyle.

"Most of the time we were pretty even, but occasionally I beat my brother," finished Cody.

The twins' kindred mind set made boot camp easier to bear.

"When the drill instructors would count down to get us to do things quickly, other recruits were digging through their stuff to look for what was asked," said Kyle. "My brother and I would be much further ahead of everyone else because without a word my brother would have what I needed or I would have what he needed."

Doing everything alike in a place where conformity is comfortable only helped the twins excel with no problems except for small heckling.

"During chow, the drill instructors would ask the second one of us why we were in line trying to get seconds," said Kyle.

Having completed the first part of their journey in the military, the Wombles twins look forward to the School of Infantry and a chance to see more of the world.



Pvts. Cody L. (left) and Kyle D. Wombles stand in 2nd Recruit Training Battalion's commander's inspection Tuesday. With their mother's consent, the twins enlisted into the Marine Corps at 17. Pvt. Charlie Chavez/Chevron

COMPANY CURIOSITIES

Fox Company men answer Chevron's questions about their interests and boot camp experiences:

Q: What do you miss most from civilian life?



Pvt. Matthew F. Metten
Arcata, Calif.

A: Pizza or my girlfriend.

Q: What was the scariest moment in training?



Pvt. Michael T. Old
Mesa, Ariz.

A: Gas chamber. It was the only time that I really wanted to quit boot camp.



Lt. j.g. Teresa Taveira, a Naval Medical Center San Diego nurse, crawls under an obstacle at Murphy Field House during the Survival Cycle class Oct. 19. Pvt. Charlie Chavez/Chevron photos

CHURN & BURN

Sweat pours as Semper Fit moves spinning workout outside

BY PVT. CHARLIE CHAVEZ
Chevron staff

With sweaty brows, exercisers slogged out of a tent pitched next to Murphy Field House on a sunny Oct. 19. They jumped; they sprinted; they passed medicine balls.

After that, they were back in the tent. Inside, as the sun and body heat cooked the air, participants mounted exercise bikes and glistened with sweat as part of Survival Cycle, a new Semper Fit-sponsored workout event.

Outside the tent, a series of agility and endurance obstacles spread across the grass for activities between cycling sessions.

“Every once in a while, we want to challenge people to step out of the boundaries of their usual workout,” said Kenny J. Young, personal trainer. “That’s why we made it segments of 20 minutes of cycling and 10 minutes of agility and endurance.”

Kelly J. Johnson, program manager, changed the pace of the usual spin class from its usual hour-long indoor routine to Survival Cycle, a two-hour, outdoor, mixed workout.

Leading the training, Johnson kept a sharp pace for her students, asking them to only adjust the difficulty according to their endurance.

“Up down, up down, keep going!” Johnson screamed repeatedly.

After the workout, she said, “People tend not to give 100 percent without someone giving them a reason. They assume they are at their max and just plateau instead of getting better.”

Working with several different students and helping many to exceed their standards is a usual practice for Johnson.

“Our job as personal fitness trainers is to help find different ways to help with calisthenics and endurance – to give people new ways to work out harder,” said Johnson.

The event stirred up enough curiosity and interest that two dates were set for next year. The dates are April 5 and Oct. 5, 2006. For more information, contact a trainer at (619) 524-8381.



In the middle of a sprinting drill, an exerciser grinds out a set of push-ups.



Navy ROTC cadet Meagan Hohnemann, San Diego State University, sweats it out as she pedals inside a heat-filled tent. Semper Fit has scheduled another Survival Cycle workout for April 2006.



Sgt. Nicholas N. Lopez, 12th Marine Corps District, performs jumping jacks after a 20-minute cycling drill in a hot tent.